GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3050
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2004
USE OF HUB PORTS BY INDIA
Bhadana Shri Avtar Singh

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether India uses ports of neighbouring countries for transhipment purposes;

(b) if so, the names of the hub ports of such countries that are being used; and

(c) the extent to which such transhipment has increased the shipping cost of Indian cargo?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) & (b): About half of the Indian containers carrying import/export cargo to/from India are transshipped at neighbouring foreign ports, such as Colombo, Singapore, Dubai, Salalah, Port Kelang etc.

(c): On each container transshipped at foreign port, the charges for one operation of loading and unloading are incurred extra in foreign exchange. In addition, because of detour involved in transportation by ship, extra time and cost is involved. The exact increase in the shipping cost cannot be quantified.